

Identification for Development

Session 1: The Role of Civil Registry for the Post 2015 Development Goals

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Modern civil registries and identification systems are powerful platforms for enhanced service delivery across all sectors, and a force-multiplier in the fight against poverty.

Why

- ▶ **Legal Identity** is a prerequisite for access to basic rights and services
- ▶ Critical for effective and transparent policy decisions, and improving governance
- ▶ Improves service delivery to everyone benefiting from advances in technology and secure & cost-efficient ICT solutions
- ▶ Prevents identity theft that hampers the efficiency of social programs and public spending
- ▶ Powerful way of establishing trust between different stakeholders



Challenges

- ▶ Civil registration and identification systems cover only a fraction of the population in low- and middle-income countries.
- ▶ This makes it difficult or impossible to accurately measure development progress in key areas (reduction in maternal and infant mortality or financial inclusion).
- ▶ There are real and complex barriers for governments to overcome through vision and leadership.
- ▶ Governments must address a number of key challenges (regulatory concerns, work with private sector to develop infrastructure that can reach remote areas, ensure interoperability and trusted authentication protocols for data exchange among different services and solution providers).

Key Figures ^{1, 2}

- 700 million children lack formal identification
- 2.5 billion people still outside the formal financial system
- ID-enabled digital transactions are worth \$70 billion worldwide
- Potential savings in public spending to reach \$50 billion globally by 2020

¹ Source: Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) presentation (2014)

² Source: Secure Identity Alliance (SIA) "e-Gov Study" (November 2013)



Opportunities

- ▶ The wide availability of information and communication technologies (ICT), including ubiquitous mobile devices and low-cost biometrics, is making it possible for governments to leapfrog to more efficient 21st century civil registration and identification systems for their citizens.
- ▶ As a result, there is an urgent need for these issues to be more prominent in the agenda of governments.

Key Figures ¹

- Currently, it is estimated that the global economy may grow from \$1.5 trillion to \$2.5 trillion in 2020, depending on the trust between citizens and businesses facilitated by governments.
- Digital transactions performed by private operators are expected to reach US\$ 70 billion worldwide and benefit a range of sectors.
- The roll-out of robust identification systems can yield potential global savings in public spending of \$50 billion by 2020.

¹ Source: Secure Identity Alliance (SIA) "e-Gov Study" (November 2013)



Post-2015 Development Agenda

New post-2015 goals are being defined to drive **five big transformative shifts**:

1. **Leave No One Behind.** Ensure that no person – regardless of ethnicity, gender, geography, disability, race or other status – is denied basic economic opportunities and human rights.
2. **Put Sustainable Development at the Core.** Integrate the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability.
3. **Transform Economies for Jobs and Inclusive Growth.** Harness innovation, technology, and the potential of business for a profound economic transformation to end extreme poverty.
4. **Build Peace and Effective, Open and Accountable Institutions for All.** Governments should be honest, accountable, and responsive to the needs of their citizens.
5. **Forge a New Global Partnership.** A new spirit of solidarity, cooperation, and mutual accountability must underpin the post-2015 agenda.

Every year, about 50 million births are not registered anywhere, so these children do not have a legal identity. ¹

Relevant Governance Goal ► Everyone should have a legal identity



10. Ensure Good Governance and Effective Institutions

10a. Provide free and universal legal identity, such as birth registrations

10b. Ensure people enjoy freedom of speech, association, peaceful protest and access to independent media and information

10c. Increase public participation in political processes and civic engagement at all levels

10d. Guarantee the public's right to information and access to government data

10e. Reduce bribery and corruption and ensure officials can be held accountable

¹ Source: [A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies Through Sustainable Development](#), UN Report (2013)



Scaling-up the ID4D Agenda

- ▶ Recognizing that civil registries, together with unique identification, are a foundational issue for all sectors and pillars of the economy, the World Bank Group is formulating a coherent cross-sectoral approach to work closely with development partners, donors and governments to provide unified technical and financial support to low- and middle-income countries.
- ▶ The ID4D agenda builds on several multi-sectoral initiatives led by the World Bank teams in collaboration with external partners and client counterparts.

Key Initiatives

- [CRVS Scale-Up Plan](#) (2015-2024), presented at the Canadian Prime Minister's Summit in late May 2014,
- [Digitizing Payments](#) report, prepared for the G20 Summit in November 2014, and focusing on global Financial Inclusion targets,
- Recently launched [Digital Identity Toolkit for Africa](#), and
- Forthcoming reports on Social Protection and Governance (being developed by the Social Protection Inter-Agency Coordination Board).



How we can help

- ▶ Recently established **ID4D Cross-Practice Working Group** is the focal point within the WBG.
- ▶ **Stocktaking:** Analytical work to determine the status of each country's ID4D readiness index. Identifying priority actions and countries in need.
- ▶ **Advisory support:** Raising awareness on legal / regulatory challenges. Support for policy development.
- ▶ **Operational engagements:** Technical and financial support from the WBG for the development of integrated ID4D solutions.
- ▶ **Standards:** Promote standards and regional approaches for establishing interoperability frameworks, integrated solutions and cross-border applications.
- ▶ **Knowledge:** Creation and dissemination of relevant global knowledge products and data sets.
- ▶ **Partnerships:** Strengthening partnerships with client countries and other development partners.

Thank You

